DT01 Rec'd PCT/FTT 1 9 OCT 2004

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-11.

Please add new claims 12-22 as shown below.

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

- 12. (New) A method for fabricating finely patterned interconnects having low electrical resistance, the method comprising:
 - (a) forming a finely patterned metal-containing interconnect having a first grain size on a carrier material; and
 - (b) producing and moving a locally delimited thermal region in the finely patterned metal-interconnect in such a way that a recrystallization of the interconnect is carried out for the purpose of producing an interconnect having a second grain size, the second grain size being enlarged with respect to the first grain size.
- 13. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the finely patterned interconnect has feature sized of less than 0.2 μm .
 - 14. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein,
 - direction which is substantially perpendicular to the primary direction; and in set (b), the movement of the thermal region is corried out substantially in the movement.
 - in act (b), the movement of the thermal region is carried out substantially in the primary direction and/or in the secondary direction or at an angle of 45 degrees to the primary direction and the second direction.

' Preliminary Amendment dated: October 19, 2004

- 15. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein act (b) is carried out repeatedly.
- 16. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein, in act (b), the locally delimited thermal region is produced by means of a fanned-out laser beam, a hot gas, a multiplicity of heating lamps and/or a heating wire.
- 17. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the locally delimited thermal region is formed in strip-type or point-type fashion.
- 18. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein, in act (a), the interconnect has a metal alloy or a doped metal with an impurity proportion of less than 5%.
- 19. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the carrier material has a diffusion barrier layer and/or a seed layer.
- 20. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein, in act (a), a damascene method is carried out.
- 21. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the locally delimited thermal region has a temperature of 150 degrees Celsius to 450 degrees Celsius.
- 22. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the recrystallization is carried out in a protective gas atmosphere.